

school teachers, nurses, computer programmers and others in 55 different job categories. And a bipartisan majority of 52 Senators voted against taking away overtime from any worker currently entitled to it. It would be unconscionable if this bill comes out of conference without those protections.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 4520), as amended, was passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

Mr. REID. I move to reconsider the vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate insists on its amendment and requests a conference with the House. The Chair is authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate at the ratio of 12 to 11.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Presiding Officer (Mr. BENNETT) Appointed Senators GRASSLEY, HATCH, NICKLES, LOTT, SNOWE, KYL, THOMAS, SANTORUM, SMITH, BUNNING, MCCONNELL, GREGG, BAUCUS, ROCKEFELLER, DASCHLE, BREAUX, CONRAD, GRAHAM of Florida, JEFFORDS, BINGAMAN, LINCOLN, KENNEDY, and HARKIN conferees on the part of the Senate.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business for debate only with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

A TRUE FRIEND OF AMERICA: C.J. CHEN

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, later this month, our country will bid farewell to a good friend. Chen Chien-jen—known to all of us as C.J. Chen—first came to Washington 33 years ago and has spent over 20 years here working to promote a better relationship between the United States and Taiwan. As he retires and returns home, C.J. will leave the people of Taiwan a legacy of a strong relationship with the United States and deep support from the American people.

C.J. has strived to represent the people of Taiwan in the foreign service for 37 years, 20 of which have been spent here in Washington. He began his ex-

emplary service in the United States in 1971 as Third Secretary in the Embassy of the Republic of China, and remained in Washington after 1979, working with Congress to draft the critical Taiwan Relations Act of 1979. From 1983 to 1989, he served as deputy representative of the Coordination Council for North American Affairs, Taiwan's diplomatic mission to the United States. And for the last 4 years, he has admirably headed the current mission, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office.

C.J.'s leadership as Taiwan's chief diplomat to the United States has been remarkable. During his 4 years as representative, he has helped elevate the United States-Taiwan relationship to unprecedented strength. He has championed the passage of critical legislation by Congress, and he has worked with Congress and the White House to cement the United States commitment to strengthen Taiwan's self-defense. At the same time, he has educated his own leadership and people about the United States, our people, and our policies.

But for me, and for many of us in Washington, C.J. Chen will be missed not only as an outstanding diplomat, but as a close personal friend. During his time in Washington, I have had the opportunity to get to know C.J. and his wife, Yolanda Ho, very well, and I will miss them.

While C.J. will no longer serve his people in an official capacity, I know that he will continue to contribute to building United States-Taiwan relations. I wish C.J. and Yolanda a long and happy retirement, and hope they will often return to visit their friends here in the United States.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On August 18, 2000, a group of boys shot through the front window of a well-known lesbian bar on Capitol Hill, known as Phase I. Though witnesses identified a gang of young boys as the perpetrators, they escaped without being apprehended. Three years earlier, a canister of tear gas was tossed into a gay bar two blocks from Phase I, and police classified that crime as a hate crime.

Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. By passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN LIBYA AND IRAQ

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I bring to my colleagues' attention a thoughtful op-ed article published in the July 13 Washington Post by Mona Eltahawy, a London-based Arab journalist.

The article raises an important question about a double standard on human rights between Libya and Iraq. The United States overthrew Saddam Hussein's regime because he was a brutal dictator, but we embrace Libya's Qadhafi despite the fact that he is a brutal dictator.

About the double standard Ms. Eltahawy wrote: "In the absence of weapons of mass destruction, and with images of Hussein on trial for war crimes, they have been pushing the 'removal of a brutal dictator' excuse for the invasion. How do they square this with their astonishing rush to embrace another ruthless dictator? Qadhafi's behavior of late has been uncomfortably close to brutal."

Libya remains, according to the CIA World Factbook, "in fact, a military dictatorship" under Colonel Qadhafi. His government "continued to commit numerous, serious abuses," including arbitrary arrest and detention, and restrictions of "freedom of speech, press, assembly, association, and religion," according to the February 2004 State Department Human Rights Report. Violence and discrimination against women are serious problems as well.

A recent visit by Amnesty International to Libya found that "a pattern of human rights violations continues, often justified under the new rhetoric of the 'war on terror.'" Amnesty International's findings include "laws which criminalize the peaceful exercise of freedom of expression and association, leading to the imprisonment of prisoners of conscience; prolonged detention without access to the outside world, which facilitates torture; and unfair trials, in particular before the people's court which tries political cases. Torture and ill-treatment continues to be widely reported, its main use being to extract 'confessions.'" "The Qadhafi regime also continues to intrude in the affairs of other African nations, despite Secretary Powell's call in February 2004 that Libya 'cease to be destabilizing, cease to fund despotic regimes, and cease to cause trouble.'" According to Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Bill Burns, Libya was involved as recently as February in sowing instability throughout Africa. "There have been problems . . . in Zimbabwe. There have been problems . . . in Liberia and elsewhere," he said. "We continue to have concerns" in the Central African Republic, he also said.

In the Central African Republic, Libyan troops were reportedly directly involved in 2001 in halting an army revolt against the president. A year later, Libya and the Republic agreed on a 99-